



**President's Report**  
**Marielena DeSanctis, President Community College of Denver**  
**September 8, 2021**

*Transform the Student Experience*

**Welcome Back CCD City Hawks!**







***Redefine our value proposition through accessibility, affordability, quality, accountability, resource development, and operational excellence.***

## **CCD's Center for Workforce Initiatives is Growing!**

The Center for Workforce Initiatives (CWI) at CCD has started to implement some changes that will increase our ability to serve the college and community more effectively. This will also expand our services related to College-wide employer and community workforce partnerships.



Katrina Wert is now the Executive Director of Workforce and Community Partnerships. In this role, she will provide support and oversight for the program; partnership, and business development activities advancing CCD's workforce initiative efforts, including: regional workforce and community development partnerships, customized training in business and industry, and industry and employer engagement. Additionally, she will work closely with community organizations and economic development partners to grow workforce partnerships, and serve on the College's executive leadership team to facilitate a College-wide vision and activities related to workforce development in support of CCD's strategic objectives.



Matthew Sweeney has transitioned from his previous role as the Director of the Advanced Manufacturing Center to now serve as the Director of Workforce Innovation and Strategy in CWI. In this new capacity, he will be supporting program chairs and deans to incubate and grow non-credit training opportunities; connect the College to community and employer resources; integrate work-based learning across the College; serve as a point of contact for external interest, and help champion structural reforms needed to better align our work to regional Metro Denver Community. He'll be reaching out to many of you this coming semester to explore ways to collaborate and support your work.



***Transform our own workforce experience.***

### **Theresa Lavin Named MVP by NASFAA!**

Our very own Theresa Lavin, CCD's director of financial aid, was named Most Valuable Professional by the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA). This honor recognizes the dedication and skill that Theresa comes to CCD each day to support our students. [Read More about Theresa's MVP Recognition](#)



### **Jennifer Maxwell Advocates for Universal Design**



Jennifer Maxwell, CCD's accessibility coordinator, was highlighted by CU Denver News on July 26's National Disability Independence Day advocating for universal design.

A quick quote from the article:

"I'm a big proponent of universal design," Jennifer Maxwell said. "It's about multiple modes of engagement, of expression ... accounting for the variety in learning styles." She believes universal design benefits everyone, not only people with

disabilities. Inclusive teaching, paired with assistive technology, can equitably benefit an English Language Learning (ELL) student while benefiting a student who is visually impaired; it's a win-win."

Jennifer's leadership and daily work inspire and move our community forward! [Read the full article here!](#)